

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 06244 020530Z
ACTION PA-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SY-05 CA-01 DRC-01 /020 W
-----041325 030217Z /15

R 020240Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9370

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN, CGEN
SUBJECT: NEW CLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

REF: STATE 188270

1. POST IS CONCERNED ABOUT NEW GUIDELINES FOR CLASSIFICATION AS THEY RELATE TO CONSULAR SERVICES. THE REQUIREMENT THAT A DOCUMENT MAY ONLY BE CLASSIFIED IF "UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF THE INFORMATION CAN BE REASONABLY EXPECTED TO CAUSE IDENTIFI-
ABLE DAMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY" (SEE PARA 3, REFTEL) APPEARS TO PRECLUDE CLASSIFICATION OF MANY CONSULAR DOCUMENTS, EVEN WHEN SUCH CLASSIFICATION IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE.

2. WE WISH TO BRING TO THE DEPARTMENT'S NOTICE THREE GENERAL SITUATIONS, WHICH OCCUR FREQUENTLY IN CONSULAR AFFAIRS, AND WHICH WE HAVE, UP TILL NOW, CONSIDERED AS CLASSIFIED.

A) THE ARREST REPORT FOR AN AMCIT WHO HAS TOLD THE CONSULAR OFFICER THAT HE OR SHE IS GUILTY OF THE CRIME.

B) A TELEGRAM IN WHICH THE CONSULAR OFFICER IS DESCRIBING THE PROBLEMS OF A PERSON OF QUESTIONABLE MENTAL CONDITION.

C) TELEGRAMS OR MEMORANDA CONCERNING THE PROBLEMS OF AFGHAN VISA APPLICANTS, OR OF AMERICAN WIVES MARRIED TO AFGHANS.

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CLASSIFICATION OF MATERIAL IN ALL THREE OF THESE SITUATIONS IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE, EITHER FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL INVOLVED, OR FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CONSULAR OFFICER: YET, JUDGING BY THE GUIDELINES SET FORTH IN REFTEL, CLASSIFICATION WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

3. WE HOPE THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONSIDER THE PROBLEMS

INVOLVED IN CONSULAR SERVICES AS IT PREPARES THE REGULATIONS
AND PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER ON
CLASSIFICATION. DUBS

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 02 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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